



*J. Ford*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Shigeru SAKAI et al.**

Art Unit: **1794**

Application No.: **10/562,723**

Examiner: **Ula Corinna Ruddock**

Filed: **December 30, 2005**

Confirmation Number: **3795**

For: **IMPACT-ABSORBING COMPOSITE STRUCTURE, METHOD OF  
MANUFACTURING THE IMPACT-ABSORBING COMPOSITE STRUCTURE,  
AND DRIVING OBJECT OR AVIATING OBJECT EMPLOYING THE IMPACT-  
ABSORBING COMPOSITE STRUCTURE**

Attorney Docket Number: **053327**

Customer Number: **38834**

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

May 19, 2009

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated April 23, 2009, and  
having a response due date set for May 23, 2009.

In the Office Action, Applicants are required to elect one of the following groups of  
claims for prosecution in this application:

- Group I     Claims 1-3, drawn to an impact-absorbing composite  
                 structure;
- Group II    Claims 4-5, drawn to a method of making an impact-absorbing  
                 composite structure; and
- Group III   Claims 6-7, drawn to an object comprising an impact-absorbing  
                 composite structure.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I, Claims 1-3.

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Response to Restriction Requirement  
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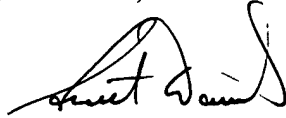
This election is made with traverse. The claims of Group I are generic to the claims of Group III. Specifically, Group III claims 6-7 recite products that employ the impact-absorbing composite structure including only features recited in Group I claims 1-3. Moreover, because of the overlap of the claimed subject matter between the respective Groups, it would not be an undue burden for the Examiner to search all the claims at the same time.

Applicants' right to the filing of a Divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. If any additional fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



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SMD/dlt